

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

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TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, ETRD, NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER GARBA'S
PRESS CONFERENCE, NEW YORK, JANUARY 27

1. THE FOLLOWING QUOTES NOTES ON GARBA PRESS CONFERENCE
PROVIDED TO AF/W BY USUN. GARBA MADE NO OPENING STATEMENT.

2. PLAN OF ACTION IN SECURITY COUNCIL ON APARTHEID -
AFRICAN GROUP IS CONSULTING WITH OTHERS WORKING ON
RESOLUTIONS TO PRESENT TO CURRENT SESSION- HE SEES NO
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NEW BREAKTHROUGH AS SUCH IN THIS-NOTHING WILL BE SAID
THAT HASN'T BEEN SAID BEFORE BUT ONE HOPES THE IMPACT
OF DONALD WOODS YESTERDAY WILL ENCOURAGE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY TO TAKE MORE NOTICE OF THE REAL SITUATION IN
SOUTH AFRICA. NO ONE COULD HAVE MADE THE FACTS MORE
CONVINCING THAN WOODS, HE SAID, BECAUSE WOODS ADVANCED
CONCRETE SUGGESTIONS. HE HOPES WESTERN POWERS WILL TAKE

NOTE AND TRY TO CHANGE THEIR ATTITUDE WHEN THE TIME COMES TO DEBATE RESOLUTIONS.

3. RHODESIA - THERE IS A LOT OF PRESSURE NOT TO DISCUSS THIS IN CURRENT SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IN VIEW OF UP-COMING MALTA TALKS. HE SEES NOTHING COMING OUT OF THE TALKS IN MALTA BUT DOESN'T WANT TO BE ACCUSED OF PREEMPTING THEM, SO HOLDING OUT A FEW MORE DAYS. ASKED TO CLARIFY

WHY HE THINKS MALTA WILL FAIL, HE SAID THAT THE WAY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS HANDLED THE QUESTION OF RHODESIA HASN'T PRODUCED ANYTHING NEW OR EXTRAORDINARY; THAT THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY'S STATEMENT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS LAST WEEK THAT BRITAIN WOULD NOT FRUSTRATE ANY EFFORT TOWARD SETTLEMENT IMPLYING ENDORSEMENT OF SMITH'S CURRENT EFFORTS WON'T PRODUCE ANY SERIOUS BREAKTHROUGH IN MALTA. THE AFRICAN GROUP IS STUDYING THE SITUATION AND HE HOPES THEY WILL BRING IT UP IN THE COUNCIL. HE THINKS THAT IN BOTH RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA THE TIME IS PAST WHEN ONE CAN TALK OF A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. HE STRESSED THAT AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVE DONE A LOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT; WENT VERY FAR TO ENDORSE THE ANGLO/AMERICAN PROPOSAL. AT FIRST THAT LED TO APPOINTMENT OF PREM CHAND AND LORD CARVER, BUT NOW TIME IS RUNNING OUT; IT GIVES SMITH TIME TO CONSOLIDATE HIS CONTROL OVER THE BLACK PEOPLE WHICH MAKES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IT TOO LATE ALREADY TO TALK OF PEACEFUL SOLUTION. ASKED IF NIGERIA STILL SUPPORTS THE ANGLO/AMERICAN INITIATIVE, GARBA SAID NIGERIA IS ACTIVELY TAKING PART IN THE ARMED STRUGGLE; HAS NEVER STOPPED SUPPORTING IT. HE SAID THE AMERICANS HAVE BEEN TELLING THEM THAT THE ANGLO/AMERICAN PLAN IS STILL ALIVE AND NIGERIA HAS BEEN PREPARED TO LISTEN BUT AT THE SAME TIME WON'T STOP ARMED STRUGGLE. ASKED IF HE FEELS HE IS BEING DECEIVED ABOUT THE ANGLO/AMERICAN PLAN, GARBA SAID THE PLAN HAS LOST COMMITMENT FOR VARIOUS REASONS; THAT SEVERAL DEADLINES HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS AND HAVEN'T BEEN KEPT; ASSURANCE THAT CERTAIN ACTIONS WOULD BE TAKEN THAT HAVEN'T BEEN E.G. SMITH WOULD BE BROUGHT DOWN IN SIX MONTHS AND HE IS STILL VERY MUCH THERE; THERE WOULD BE TALK BY NOW OF TRANSITION GOVERNMENT AND "WE ARE VERY FAR FROM THAT. THERE ARE SO MANY CONTRADICTIONS THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT SOMEONE SOMEWHERE IS REALLY DOING WHAT HE SAYS HE IS DOING. THAT IS WHY WE ARE DISILLUSIONED." ASKED WHAT THE EFFECT OF ALL THIS IS ON ANDY YOUNG'S CREDIBILITY HE RESPONDED: THE AMERICANS WANT WEIGHT THROWN BEHIND THE BRITISH PROPOSAL. ALL ARE AGREED RHODESIA IS A COLONIAL PROBLEM

AND RESPONSIBILITY OF BRITAIN, AND BRITAIN SHOULD GO IN THERE AND EXERCISE THEIR POWER. THE BRITISH ROPED IN THE AMERICANS BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T HAVE POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC WILL TO PRESSURE RHODESIA, AND NOW IT IS UP TO ANDY YOUNG TO SALVAGE HIMSELF IF HIS CREDIBILITY HAS BEEN QUESTIONED.

4. NAMIBIA - THE TIME HAS COME TO GET THE WESTERN FIVE AND SWAPO TO PRESENT CASES TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL,

AND DECIDE WHAT TO DO ABOUT NAMIBIA. HE FORESEES AN ARMED STRUGGLE HERE AS WELL BEFORE IT IS ALL OVER.

5. SOUTH AFRICA- IT IS NOT THE INTENTION OF THE AFRICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENTS TO PUSH THE WHITE MAN INTO THE SEA. THERE IS A ROLE FOR EVERY SOUTH AFRICAN TO PLAY IN THAT COUNTRY- MODALITIES ARE VERY DIFFICULT- TO STOP INVESTMENT; IMPOSE OIL SANCTIONS; STOP NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY THAT KEEP SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME GOING AND BELIEVE BLACKS SHOULD RISE UP AS THEY DID IN SOWETO AND ELSEWHERE AND MAKE THEIR PRESENCE KNOWN IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADOPT AN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS/ INVESTMENT RESOLUTION. HE HOPES HERE THAT WOODS' WORDS WILL BE HEEDDED ON ALL ASPECTS OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS. ASKED IF PROPOSAL SHOULD INCLUDE OIL EMBARGO HE SAID YES; ASKED IF HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE VETOED HE RESPONDED "WHAT DO YOU THINK?"

HE NOTED THAT OUTSIDE OF THE UN NIGERIA AS A COUNTRY THROUGH OAU AND OPEC TRYING TO IMPOSE OIL SANCTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA BUT ONE COUNTRY CAN'T DO IT ALONE. OPEC COUNTRIES HAVE CERTAIN POLICIES TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA. HE NOTED THAT NIGERIA DOES TAKE ECONOMIC MEASURES AGAINST COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND WANT ALSO TO DO IT WITH NIGERIA. "WE ARE PREPARED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY SACRIFICES SO THAT POLICIES TAKE EFFECT." COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS IN NIGERIA AND HAVING BUSINESS WITH SOUTH AFRICA MUST MAKE A CHOICE BETWEEN THE TWO. NEW COMPANIES COMING INTO NIGERIA MUST SIGN AND ACCEPT A CLAUSE THAT THEY WON'T DEAL WITH SOUTH AFRICA; IF THEY VIOLATE THIS THEY ARE FINED UP TO FIVE TIMES THE COST OF THE CONTRACT SIGNED. AN ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE UNIT HAS BEEN SET UP TO MONITOR THIS. HE SUGGESTED FIVE OR SIX COMPANIES HAVE BEEN GUILTY OF THIS BUT DIDN'T NAME THEM.

ASKED WHY THE SECURITY COUNCIL OR ASSEMBLY DOESN'T CONDEMN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IRAN FOR EXPORTING SO MUCH OIL TO SOUTH AFRICA, HE NOTED THE OAU MINISTERS HAVE BEEN VISITING OPEC COUNTRIES, BUT DIDN'T GET TO IRAN, TO TRY AND PERSUADE THEM OF THE NECESSITY OF AN EMBARGO; HE SAID CERTAIN CONSULTATIONS ARE GOING ON WITH IRAN TO TALK THEM INTO REVIEWING THEIR POLICIES. HE WOULD NOT PREDICT HOW LONG THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL MEET ON SOUTH AFRICA, BUT SAID HE RETURNS HOME TODAY; THAT AMB. HARRIMAN WILL BE IN CHARGE FROM NOW ON UNTIL NIGERIA GIVES UP PRESIDENT'S SEAT AT END OF JANUARY.

6. FYI: WE HAVE SEEN NO REPORTING OF THIS PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE U.S. PRESS. VANCE

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